

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method of generating a network zone plan, comprising:
 - collecting device connectivity information for devices in a network;
 - performing an analysis on the collected information to infer relationships between the devices;
 - identifying policies to be utilized in generating a zone plan of the network,
wherein said polices include granularity, type of storage device, and grouping; and
 - generating the zone plan ~~base3d based~~ based on a combination of the analysis performed and the identified zoning policies, and
implementing said zone plan in a SAN.
2. (Cancelled) The method of claim 1 wherein the network is a storage area network (SAN).
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the zone plan dictates which of the devices are visible to each other.
4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3 wherein the devices include host systems to access data and storage subsystems which are providers of said data.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4 wherein the zone plan is a network-layer access control mechanism which dictates which said storage subsystems are visible to which said hosts.

6. (Cancelled) The method of claim 1 further comprises presenting the zone plan for approval, wherein the zone plan is not implemented until approval is received.

7. (Currently amended) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having instruction codes for providing autonomic zoning in a storage area network, comprising:
a ~~first~~ set of instruction codes for collecting device connectivity information for devices in a network;
a ~~second~~ set of instruction codes for performing an analysis on the collected information to infer relationships between the devices;
a ~~third~~ set of instruction codes for identifying policies to be utilized in generating a zone plan of the network, wherein said policies include granularity, type of storage device, and grouping; and
a ~~fourth~~ set of instruction codes for generating the zone plan based on a combination of the analysis performed and the identified zoning policies; and,
a set of instruction codes for implementing said zone plan in the storage area network.

8. (Cancelled) The computer program product of claim 7 wherein the network is a storage area network (SAN).

9. (Original) The computer program product of claim 7 wherein the zone plan dictates which of the devices are visible to each other.

10. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim 9 wherein the devices include host systems to access data and storage subsystems which are providers of said data.

11. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim 10 wherein the zone plan is a network-layer access control mechanism which dictates which said storage subsystems are visible to which said hosts.

12. (Cancelled) The computer program product of claim 7 further comprises presenting the zone plan for approval, wherein the zone plan is not implemented until approval is received.

13. (Cancelled) A system to provide autonomic zoning in a network, comprising: an autonomic zoning management module to autonomically generate zoning plans pertaining to a network, according to a combination of each device in the network's connectivity information and user generated policies.